



Eduardo Arenas

Court Certified Translating & Interpreting

Federal Cert. # 10-006 • Florida Cert. # 10-00132 SPA

352.577.5267 • eduardo@cctranslating.com • www.cctranslating.com

EXPERT WITNESS CURRICULUM VITAE

Eduardo Arenas

Federally & State-Certified Court Interpreter (Spanish–English)

Forensic Transcription & Translation Expert (FTT)

Florida | Available Nationwide

EXPERTISE SUMMARY

Expert witness specializing in **forensic transcription and translation (FTT)** and linguistic analysis of Spanish–English evidence used in litigation. Nearly 25 years of courtroom and evidentiary experience in state and federal proceedings. Has completed **approximately 50 forensic transcriptions and translations**, most of which were admitted by stipulation or without challenge. Expert opinions have been credited by state and federal courts, including in constitutional rulings, and relied upon by both prosecutorial agencies and defense counsel. Expertise includes interpreter error analysis, translation adequacy, and interpretation of Spanish-language statements central to evidentiary and constitutional determinations.

CERTIFICATIONS & CREDENTIALS

- **Federally Certified Court Interpreter (Spanish–English)**
Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts
Federal Certification No. 10-006 (since February 2010)
 - **State of Florida Certified Court Interpreter (Spanish–English)**
Office of the State Courts Administrator
Florida Certification No. 10-00132 SPA (since June 2004)
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EDUCATION

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Advertising

1997–2002

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Federally Certified Court Interpreter and Translator

Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts

2010–Present

Currently active with the **Northern and Middle Districts of Florida**, with prior federal court assignments in the **District of Arizona**, **Western District of Texas**, **Southern District of Georgia**, and the **District Court of the Virgin Islands**.



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State Certified Court Interpreter and Translator

State of Florida

2004–Present

Currently active in the **1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 11th, and 13th Judicial Circuits** of Florida.

AREAS OF EXPERT OPINION

- Accuracy and completeness of Spanish–English forensic transcriptions and translations
 - Linguistic analysis of recorded statements and intercepted communications
 - Interpretation of Spanish-language statements implicating constitutional rights
 - Interpreter errors, omissions, register issues, and false cognates
 - Reliability and admissibility of translated evidence
 - Professional standards governing court interpreters and legal translators
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SELECTED EXPERT WITNESS EXPERIENCE (CHRONOLOGICAL)

State of Florida v. Chester Wright, Jr.

Case No.: 38-2009-CF-159-D

Court: Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Alachua County, Florida

Agency: Office of the State Attorney, Eighth Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: July 16, 2009

FTT stipulated by defense counsel. No trial testimony required.

United States v. Graciela Zuniga-Arteaga

Case No.: 4:10-cr-79-SPM

Court: U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida

Agency: United States Attorney' Office, Northern District of Florida, Pensacola Division

FTT Delivered: December 15, 2010

FTT stipulated by defense counsel. No trial testimony required.

State of Florida v. Mariano Pablo Zun

Case No.: 01-2016-CF-002471-A

Court: Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Alachua County, Florida

Agency: Office of the State Attorney, Eighth Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: January 17, 2018

FTT stipulated by defense counsel. No trial testimony required.

State of Florida v. Heriberto Berrios-Aponte

Case No.: 2016-CF-482

Court: Circuit Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit in and for Marion County, Florida



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Agency: Office of the State Attorney, Fifth Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: July 20, 2018

Trial Testimony: September 27, 2018

Testified at jury trial, including **reading the entire FTT into the record**. Defendant found guilty and sentenced to a **25-year mandatory minimum** term of imprisonment.

State of Florida v. Pilar Deix-Corrales

Case No.: 01-2019-CF-001166-A

Court: Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Alachua County, Florida

Agency: Office of the Public Defender, Eighth Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: May 3, 2021

Plea agreement. No trial testimony required.

State of Florida v. David Gomez-Pretel

Case No.: 2020-CF-1748

Court: Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Leon County, Florida

Agency: Office of the State Attorney, Second Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: November 17, 2021

FTT stipulated by defense counsel. No trial testimony required.

State of Florida v. Katherine Magbanua

Case No.: 2016-CF-3036

Court: Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Leon County, Florida

Agency: Office of the State Attorney, Second Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: May 22, 2022

FTT stipulated by defense counsel. No trial testimony required.

State of Florida v. Ricardo Chub

Case No.: —

Court: Circuit Court of the Second Judicial Circuit in and for Leon County, Florida

Agency: Office of the State Attorney, Second Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: May 26, 2022

FTT stipulated by defense counsel. No trial testimony required.

State of Florida v. Joelle Bracero / Miguel Mendez

Case No.: 2018-CF-3735

Court: Circuit Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit in and for Marion County, Florida

Agency: Office of the State Attorney, Fifth Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: November 1, 2022

Motion in Limine Hearing: December 8, 2022

Provided expert testimony regarding forensic transcription and translation issues during a **motion in limine hearing** addressing admissibility and evidentiary scope of Spanish-language materials.



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State of Florida v. Julio Rivera

Case No.: 2019-CFDL -103051

Court: Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit in and for Volusia County, Florida

Agency: Office of the State Attorney, Seventh Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: January 17, 2023

Trial Testimony: January 10, 2024

Testified as an expert at jury trial. Defendant convicted of **first-degree murder** and **possession of a firearm by a convicted felon**; **sentenced to death in July 2024**.

State of Florida v. Virgilio Aguilar-Mendez

Case No.: 2023-CF-00781

Court: Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial Circuit in and for Volusia County, Florida

Agency: Office of the State Attorney, Second Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: December 13, 2023

FTT stipulated by defense counsel. No trial testimony required.

State of Florida v. Felix Sanchez

Case No.: 2022-CF-003441-A

Court: Circuit Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit in and for Marion County, Florida

Agency: Office of the State Attorney, Fifth Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: May 1, 2024

FTT stipulated by defense counsel. No trial testimony required.

State of Florida v. Oswaldo Orsini

Case No.: —

Court: Circuit Court of the Sixth Judicial Circuit in and for Pinellas County, Florida

Agency: Office of the State Attorney, Sixth Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: August 4, 2024

FTT stipulated by defense counsel. No trial testimony required.

United States v. Isvaldo Guerra-Perdomo

Case No.: 3:24-cr-62-MMH-SJH

Court: U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, Jacksonville Division

Agency: CJA Attorney Patrick Korody

Role: Expert Witness for the Defense

Review of Post-Arrest Interview Recording: April 3, 2025

Motion to Suppress Hearing: May 14, 2025

Outcome: Motion to Suppress GRANTED

Court credited Mr. Arenas' expert testimony over that of a Spanish-speaking law enforcement officer regarding a **clear and unambiguous invocation of the right to counsel**.



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State of Florida v. Arnulfo Vega-Cardenas

Case No.: 2024-C-001482-AX

Court: Circuit Court of the Twentieth Judicial Circuit in and for Manatee County, Florida

Agency: Florida Office of the Attorney General, Statewide Prosecution, Fort Myers Division

FTT Delivered: August 28, 2025

Trial Testimony: September 24, 2025

Outcome: Jury Verdict NOT GUILTY

State of Florida v. Melvin Arias

Case No.: 2024-CF-000179

Court: Circuit Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit in and for Marion County, Florida

Agency: Office of the State Attorney, Fifth Judicial Circuit

FTT Delivered: January 6, 2025

Trial Testimony: December 9, 2025

Capital murder prosecution. Testified at jury trial, including **reading the entire FTT into the record**. Jury returned a verdict of **guilty of second-degree murder with a firearm; sentenced to 45 years in prison in February 2026**.

PRACTICE NOTES

- Approximately **50 forensic transcriptions and translations** completed
 - At least **six (6) matters involving live testimony**, including jury trials, evidentiary hearings, and motions in limine
 - Expert opinions credited by state and federal courts
 - Extensive history of **stipulated and uncontested FTT work**
 - Available for **criminal, civil, administrative, and post-conviction matters**
 - Available for **retained, court-appointed, or neutral expert** roles
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REFERENCES

Available upon request